

Message Text

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PAGE 01 OTTAWA 01993 252022Z
ACTION EUR-12

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-----260836Z 110373 /11
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FM AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2921
INFO AMCONSUL HALIFAX

UNCLAS OTTAWA 01993

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FOR MASON

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OGEN
SUBJECT: PROCEEDS OF SALE SURPLUS PROPERTY--ST. JOHN'S

1. ON AUGUST 14, 1976 CG ST. JOHN'S COMMISSIONED WELL KNOWN ST. JOHN'S BUSINESSMAN AND SOLE AUCTIONEER CARL STERRETT TO DISPOSE BY AUCTION SURPLUS FURNITURE, EQUIPMENT AND SUPPLIES. AUCTION HELD ON PREMISES OF CONSULATE GENERAL, GROSSED IN EXCESS OF DOLS 15,000. AFTER DEDUCTING AUCTIONEER'S COMMISSION OF 20 PERCENT, STERRETT GAVE CONSUL GENERAL JOHN MOORE TWO CHECKS ON AUGUST 17 FOR BALANCE OF FUNDS. CHECK FOR DOLS 5,760 RETURNED FOR NSF. REPEATED PHONE CALLS BY CG MOORE BROUGHT EMPTY ASSURANCES THAT "REPLACEMENT CHECK WAS ON ITS WAY."

2. AS REPEATED REQUESTS FOR PAYMENT HAVE BEEN TO NO AVAIL, EMBASSY REQUESTS BUREAU'S RECOMMENDATIONS IN TAKING LEGAL ACTION AGAINST STERRETT. ATTORNEY WILLIAM MARSHALL OF ST. JOHN'S WILL CHARGE MAXIMUM OF 20 PERCENT OF SUM RECOVERED. MARSHALL HAS INDICATED TO CG MOORE THAT MAXIMUM FEE WOULD BE CHARGED ONLY IN EVENT COMPLICATED COURT CASE DEVELOPED AND LIKELIHOOD HIS FEE WOULD BE "INFINITELY LESS." ENDERS

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Message Attributes

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